RULE 50 – OPACITY

(Adopted 7/2/68, Revised and Renumbered 10/22/68, Revised 5/23/72, 4/1/73, 5/2/74, 2/20/79, 4/13/04)

A. Requirements

A person shall not discharge into the atmosphere from any single source of emission whatsoever any air contaminants for a period or periods aggregating more than three (3) minutes in any one (1) hour which are:

1. As dark or darker in shade as that designated as No. 1 on the Ringelmann Chart, as published by the United States Bureau of Mines, or,

2. Of such opacity as to obscure an observer's view to a degree equal to or greater than does smoke described in subsection A.1 of this Rule.

B. Test Methods

Compliance shall be determined using EPA Method 9. Any other appropriate test method may be used with prior written approval by the District, the California Air Resources Board, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

C. Exemptions

1. Section A of this rule shall not apply to diesel pile-driving hammers meeting the requirements of California Health and Safety Code Section 41701.5.

2. Section A of this rule shall not apply to any diesel auxiliary engine or generator used exclusively to operate a drinking water system meeting the requirements of California Health and Safety Code Section 41701.6.

3. This rule shall not apply to dust generated by the cultivation of land, harvesting of crops or by livestock.

4. This rule shall not apply to the use of an orchard heater which does not produce unconsumed solid carbonaceous matter at a rate in excess of one (1) gram per minute.

5. This rule shall not apply to smoke generators approved by the Air Pollution Control District which are intentionally operated for purposes of training observers in observing the shade or opacity of emissions.

6. This rule shall not apply to abrasive blasting operations meeting the requirements of Rule 74.1.

7. This rule shall not apply to fires set in accordance with the requirements of Rule 56.